

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7946

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, NL

SUBJECT: FURTHER SENTENCES FOR SOUTH MOLUCCANS

REF: THE HAGUE 1682

1. DUTCH COURT HAS NOW SENTENCED SEVEN YOUNG SOUTH MOLUCCANS WHO HELD 43 PEOPLE HOSTAGE IN INDONESIAN CONSULATE IN AMSTERDAM LAST DECEMBER TO SIX YEARS IN PRISON. ALL HAD PLEADED GUILTY TO CHARGE OF ILLEGAL DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY-ROUGHLY COMPARABLE TO KIDNAPPING, WHICH CARRIES MAXIMUM TEN-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE, AS WELL AS TO CHARGES OF THREATENING TO KILL HOSTAGES AND OF ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIRE ARMS, CARRYING MAXIMUM SENTENCES OF TWO YEARS AND FOUR YEARS RESPECTIVELY. PUBLIC PROSECUTOR HAD DEMANDED PRISON SENTENCE OF 7-1/2 YEARS FOR DEFENDANTS.

2. PRESIDING JUDGE SAID BENCH HAD TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT SERIOUS VIOLATION OF LAW AND ORDER INVOLVED BUT HAD ALSO TAKEN ACCOUNT OF AGES OF DEFENDANTS AND "FACT THAT THE CRIMES BY THEM WERE NOT COMMITTED FOR PERSONAL GAIN BUT FOR POLITICAL IDEA."
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Message Attributes

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